

REMARKS

Claims 2-10, 13-22, 24-25, and 27-46 are pending in the application. Claims 2-10, 13-22, 24-25, and 27-46 stand rejected. Claims 2-6, 13-16, 18, 27-28, 30-31, 37, 40, 43-44, and 46 have been amended. Claims 42 and 45 were cancelled. Claims 47-48 were added. Claims 2-10, 13-22, 24-25, 27-41, 43-44, and 46-48 remain in the application.

Claims 2-4, 6, 13, 16, 28-34, and 42-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wiemer et al. (US 5,872,557). Claims 8-10 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiemer et al. in view of Kono (US 5,914,706). (It is assumed that it was intended that the previous rejection include Claim 7.) Claims 5, 17-22, and 37-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiemer et al. and Kono in view of Munyan (US 5,761,485). Claims 24 and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiemer et al. and Kono in view of Chang (US 2002/0101405). Claims 40-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiemer et al. and Kono and Munyan and further in view of Albert et al. (US 6,118,426). Claims 14-15 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiemer et al. and Kono in view of Borgstrom et al. (US 6,593,908).

The rejection stated in relation to Claims 42 and 45:

"Regarding claims 42, 45, Wiemer et al. discloses in figs. 7, 12 and 15, an electronic communications and user interface kit (fig 7) comprising: a portable container (casing 102); a wired communication network (see plug connection at the cover and cables not show, see col. 5, lines 16-30) integrated into said container; a display device (124, fig. 7) disposed in said container, said display device having a display (126), a display interface (fig. 10), and a transceiver (160, see col. 5, lines 48-50), said display and display interface being operatively connected, said display interface being switchable between a first state (switch 112), wherein the display interface is operatively connected to the communications network, and a second state (switch 114), wherein the display interface is operatively connected to the transceiver (160); a plurality of separate electronic devices (loudspeaker 134, radiotelephony 136, computer 122 fig. 7 and 132, 142, 134, 146, fig. 10), and disposed in

said container, the electronic devices each being capable of transferring display information to the display interface (fig. 10) via one of said communications network and the transceiver, said electronic devices each being independent and individually removable from said container without affecting other said electronics devices (see col. 5, lines 37-40)."

Claims 42 and 45 were replaced by Claims 47 and 48, respectively. Claims 47-48 are supported by the application as filed, notably the original claims and at page 4, lines 14-20; page 3, lines 17-22; page 4, lines 21-22; page 4, line 27 to page 5, line 3; and page 5, lines 4-5.

Claims 47 and 48 both require a first transceiver and a second transceiver. The first transceiver is located in the container and connected to the wired communications network. The second transceiver is part of the display device and is capable of communicating with the first transceiver. The display interface of the display device is switchable between a first state and a second state. The display interface is operatively connected to the communications network and disconnected from the second transceiver in the first state and is operatively connected to the second transceiver and disconnected from the communications network in the second state.

There is no teaching or suggestion in Weimer et al. of a first transceiver connected to the wired communications network and a second transceiver capable of communicating with the first transceiver. Weimer et al. discloses a device that has two transceivers, but one (item 200) is for receiving and transmitting HF radio and the other (item 202) is for receiving and transmitting VHF radio. (Weimer et al., col. 5, lines 23-32) Weimer et al. also discloses that an embodiment of the device can contact another device of the same type or a superordinated type using the transceiver. (Weimer et al., col. 6, lines 60-65)

There is no teaching or suggestion in Weimer et al. of a display interface that is switchable between a first state, in which the display interface is operatively connected to a communications network and disconnected from a transceiver, and a second state, in which the display interface is operatively connected to a transceiver and disconnected from the communications network. The rejection contends

otherwise, but is not supported by Weimer et al. The rejection fails to identify what part of Weimer et al. is proposed to represent the display interface and is not supported in other aspects by Weimer et al.

The rejection indicates that Weimer et al. teaches a display interface and cites Weimer et al. Figure 10. Weimer et al. does not agree with this characterization of Figure 10. Weimer et al. states:

"FIG. 10 is a circuit diagram of the components of the device according to FIGS. 7 to 9". (Weimer et al., col. 2, lines 42-43)

The rejection indicates that other elements of the claimed invention, such as the separate electronic devices are taught by items that also appear in FIG. 10, such as the computer 122 and interface adaptor 146. Similarly, the rejection states that a description of much of Weimer et al. FIG. 10 (at col. 5, lines 22-30) discloses a wired communications network, rather than the display interface. The rejection does refer to Figures 7, 12, and 15, but this is not particularly helpful in trying to understand the meaning of "display interface" intended by the rejection, since all three of these embodiments disclosed a device that includes a computer 122. The rejection states that a display device is disclosed by item 124 in FIG. 7 of the cited reference. Weimer et al. states that item 124 is a computer cover of the computer 122. (Weimer et al., col. 4, lines 43-45) In contradiction to this, the rejection states that computer 122 is one of a plurality of separate electronic devices that is capable of transferring displaying information to the display interface.

The rejection indicates that switches 112 and 114 switch the display interface between states. Since items 112 and 114 in Weimer et al. are not switches, it is assumed that the intention was to refer to switches 212 and 214. These switches 212,214, which are illustrated in FIG. 16, are part of a terminal node controller 156 that is one of two in FIG. 10. Switch 212 connects and disconnects a microphone to and from radio set 200. Weimer et al. states:

"The microphone 154 remains connected to the radio set 200 through the first switch 212 as long as the PTT touch switch 204 is pressed, and speech signals can be transmitted by the microphone. As soon as the user of the device lets go the touch switch 204, the first switch 212 returns, under control of the microprocessor 210, to the position illustrated in FIG. 16, interrupting the connection between the microphone 154 and the radio set 200 so that speech signals no longer can be transmitted.

"Transmission of data always is possible when no speech signals are to be transmitted". (Weimer et al., col. 7, lines 47-57)

Switch 214 connects and disconnects a loudspeaker to radio set 200. Weimer et al. states:

"Upon receipt of speech signals or data signals, the TNC 156 first must recognize what kind of signal is at issue. To accomplish that, the signal received is applied through the limiter amplifier 228 to the microprocessor 210 which analyzes the signal received.

"If it is a speech signal, that can be recognized by an irregular sequence of the most diverse signal frequencies. In this event the microprocessor 210 outputs a control signal through the control line 232 to the second switch 214 whereby the switch is closed and a connection established between the output 01 of the radio set and the loudspeaker 134 through the LF amplifier 218. The speech received can then be reproduced via the loudspeaker 134.

"If, on the other hand, the radio set 200 receives a signal which, for a given time, comprises only the defined frequency for logic "0", for example 1200 Hz, or for logic "1", for example 2200 Hz, or a regularly varying sequence of these two frequencies, and passes it on to the microprocessor 210, the microprocessor recognizes that a data signal was received and outputs a blanking signal through the control line 232 to the second switch 214 in order to open this switch and break the connection between the radio set 200 and the loudspeaker 134. The output 01 of the radio set 200 then only remains connected directly to the modem 216 to receive data signals." (Weimer et al., col. 8, lines 20-44)

The switching disclosed does not correspond to the features of Claim 47. In addition to the unidentified display interface, in FIG. 16 of Weimer et al., see the unswitched input I2 in radio set 200 and also note that output 01 is unswitched, except as to loudspeaker 134. Additionally, the rejection proposes that the loudspeaker is in a group of electronic devices that are each capable of transferring display information to the display interface and are independently and individually removable without affecting other said electronic devices. Based on ordinary meaning, one of ordinary skill in the art would not consider the term

"loudspeaker" to describe a device that can transfer display information to the display interface.

Claims 2-10, 13-22, 24-25, 27-39, 43-44, and 46 are allowable as depending from Claim 47.

Claim 48 is allowable on the grounds discussed above in relation to Claim 47. Claim 48 also requires that the display interface is operatively connected to the communications and power distribution networks and disconnected from the power source and second transceiver in a first state and is operatively connected to the power source and second transceiver and disconnected from the communications and power distribution networks in a second state.

Claims 40-41 are allowable as depending from Claim 48.

It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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